

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/728,418

Examiner

John Pezzlo

Applicant(s)

HUGHES ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to after final filed 30 August 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5, 7-17, 19-29, 31-35 (renumbered 1-32 respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 November 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thinh V. Nguyen on 13 October 2004.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. Claim 1 – Line 4, inserted after "to the first network" -- and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier --.

Line 7, inserted after "the first connection identifier" -- and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry --.

2. Claim 5 – Line 2, deleted "a termination", inserted -- the termination --.

Line 2, deleted -- to indicate that a remaining portion of the sequence of packets does not contain the first connection identifier --.

3. Claim 6 has been canceled.

4. Claim 13 – Line 4, inserted after "to the first network" -- and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier --.

Line 6, deleted "parser", inserted -- parsing comprising --.

Line 6, inserted after "the first connection identifier" -- , and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry --.

5. Claim 17 – Line 2, deleted "a termination", inserted -- the termination --.

6. Claim 18 has been canceled.

7. Claim 25 – Line 6, inserted after "to the first network" -- and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier --.

Line 9, inserted after "the first connection identifier" -- and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry --.

8. Claim 29 – Line 2, deleted "a termination", inserted -- the termination --.

Line 2, deleted -- to indicate that a remaining portion of the sequence of packets does not contain the first connection identifier --.

9. Claim 30 has been canceled.

10. Claim 31 – Line 6, inserted after "to the first network" -- and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier --.

Line 9, inserted after "the first connection identifier" -- and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry --.

11. Claim 35 – Line 2, deleted "a termination", inserted -- the termination --.

Line 2, deleted -- to indicate that a remaining portion of the sequence of packets does not contain the first connection identifier --.

12. Claim 36 has been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5, 7-17, 19-29, and 31-35 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant has claimed the following uniquely distinct features in the instant invention, which are not found in the prior art, either singularly or in combination.

1. Regarding claim 1 - An apparatus comprising: a table to store a plurality of entries for a packet in a sequence of packets of a message transmitted from a first network to a second network, the entries including a first connection identifier corresponding to the first network and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier, the entries being obtained from a description file of the packet, and a parser coupled to the table to parse the sequence of packets using the table, the parser extracting the first connection identifier and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry.
2. Regarding claim 13 - A method comprising: storing in a table a plurality of entries for a packet in a sequence of packets of a message transmitted from a first network to a second network, the entries including a first connection identifier corresponding to the first network and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier, the entries being obtained from a description file of the packet, and parsing the

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sequence of packets using the table, the parsing comprising extracting the first connection identifier, and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry.

3. Regarding claim 25 - A computer program product comprising: a machine useable medium having computer program code embedded therein, the computer program product having: computer readable program code to store in a table a plurality of entries for a packet in a sequence of packets of a message transmitted from a first network to a second network, the entries including a first connection identifier corresponding to the first network and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier, the entries being obtained from a description file of the packet, and computer readable program code to parse the sequence of packets using the table, the parser extracting the first connection identifier and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry.

4. Regarding claim 31 - A system comprising: an end node in a first network to communicate a message to a second network, and a router coupled to the end node to route the message, the router including a network address translation (NAT) processor, the NAT processor comprising: a table to store a plurality of entries for a packet in a sequence of packets of the message, the entries including a first connection identifier corresponding to the first network and a termination entry indicating that subsequent packets do not contain the first connection identifier, the entries being obtained from a description file of the packet, and a parser coupled to the table to parse the sequence of packets using the table, the parser extracting the first connection identifier and skipping the subsequent packets upon reaching the termination entry.

The closest prior art, either singularly or in combination, fail to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Claims 1-5, 7-17, 19-29, and 31-35 being allowable, **Prosecution On The Merits Is Closed** in this application.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. Muller et al. (US 6,483,804 B1) discloses a method and apparatus for dynamic packet batching with a high performance network interface.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Pezzlo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on (571) 272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C.

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306

For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand delivered responses should be brought to:


Jefferson Building

500 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA.

John Pezzlo

14 October 2004


JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER